CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Hashish

Other known title(s): Drugs – Weed – How to make Hashish.mpg

OFLC ref: 0900333.004

Medium: Computer Moving Image File

Director: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: The District Court at Christchurch

Classification: Objectionable.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 26 May 2009

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

	Components	Running time
Feature(s):	Hashish	4:26
Total running time:		4:26

Summary of reasons for decision:

The publication is a short film clip (4 min 26 sec) which is devoted to giving step-by-step instruction on how to produce hashish from plant marijuana. The publication's instructional tenor is not deviated from at any point. It is normalising of criminal offending and fails to engage with the legitimate debate around the legalisation of marijuana. As such it promotes and encourages the production of hashish, a Class B controlled substance under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975, to such an extent and degree, and in such a manner, that its availability would be injurious to the public good. The publication is classified as objectionable.

Having considered the Bill of Rights throughout the Office's application of the statutory criteria to this publication, and having identified the injuries to the public good that the availability of this publication is likely to create, it is apparent that injury to the public good is likely to result from the publication being made available to anyone, regardless of age. Although a classification of "objectionable" violates freedom of expression, it is the only classification that sufficiently reduces the risk presented by the availability of the publication.